GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:659
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the diplomatic initiatives proposed to be taken by the Government for post-war reconstruction of Iraq;

(b) the nature of assistance that can be rendered by India in the reconstruction of Iraq;

(c) whether the Government have held discussions in the United Nations in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the detail of the deliberations held and the outcome thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a), (b) (c) & (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) - (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.659 TO BE ANSWERE 07-05-2003

(a), (b) (c) & (d) In view of India`s traditional friendship with the Iraqi people, India is keen to participate in the post war reconstruction of Iraq. Indian companies have wide experience of working in Iraq in the 1970s and 1980s in areas such as civil construction, infrastructural projects, industrial rehabilitation and deployment of expert manpower. Different aspects of the situation in Iraq such as humanitarian relief, easing or lifting of sanctions, and a UN role in facilitating post war political arrangements and reconstruction are currently under discussion among members of the UN. India is engaged in these consultations.